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**INFORMATION REPORT**

PREPARED AND DISSEMINATED BY  
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY  
 Far East/Near East/Africa

SUBJECT  
 American Academy of Asian Studies' Dinner for  
 African and Asian Delegates to Special UN  
 Session/Romulo's Remarks/Reaction to Academy  
 Chairman's Address  
 25X1X6

PLACE ACQUIRED (By source)  
 [REDACTED] CO

DATE OF INFORMATION (Date or dates, on or between which,  
 events or conditions described in report existed)  
 22 Jun 55

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1. [REDACTED] a dinner given in San Francisco by the American Academy of Asian Studies in that city for a group of Far Eastern, Near Eastern, and African delegates to the United Nations commemorative session. Because the Academy was a little late in getting out its invitations, and because all the delegates were deluged with social bids during the week, there was some concern that the dinner would be poorly attended. As it turned out, the affair was a great success with many of the delegates cancelling other engagements in order to be on hand, and only the Syrian and Afghan delegates, among all those invited, failing to appear.
2. The following UN session delegates attended the dinner along with American Academy officials, a handful of other San Francisco residents, and Mr William Sebald of the US State Department:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Name and Position</u>
Burma	U Pe <u>Kin</u> , Ambassador to Thailand
China (Formosa)	Dr Tingfu F <u>Tsiang</u> , Ambassador to US
Egypt	Foreign Minister Dr Mahmoud <u>Fawzi</u>
Ethiopia	Ato Zaude <u>Heywot</u> , Ambassador to US
India	VK Krishna <u>Menon</u> , Chief Indian Delegate to UN
Indonesia	Dr Sudjarwo <u>Tjondronegoro</u> , Ambassador to US
Iran	Foreign Minister Abdollah <u>Entezam</u>
Iraq	Foreign Minister Moussa <u>al-Shabandar</u>
Lebanon	Dr Charles <u>Malik</u>
Liberia	Foreign Minister Momulu <u>Dukuly</u>
Pakistan	Mohammad Mir <u>Khan</u> , Ambassador to US
Philippines	General Carlos <u>Romulo</u>
Thailand	Foreign Minister Prince <u>Wan Waithayakon</u>
Turkey	Selim <u>Sarper</u> , Ambassador to the US
Yemen	Prince Seiful Islam <u>Alhassan</u>

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General Romulo's Address

3. General Romulo, acting as spokesman for the Asian and African guests at the dinner, began by recalling his interest in the work of the American Academy of Asian Studies since its very beginning, since he regarded its establishment as one of the signs that the US was becoming truly aware of Asia. The founding of the Academy and its continuing growth were, he said, indications of the US awakening to Asia's awakening. He continued by referring to the Bandung Conference as one of the great events in the whole of Asian history, showing the maturity of Asia in three ways: (1) There had not been a single resentful word toward the former colonial powers, (2) all the nations, great and small, had met in an atmosphere of complete equality, and (3) almost all the speakers had begun and ended their addresses on a religious note. All this, he felt, was a clear sign that the strength of Asia was not merely in the vast number of its people, but rather in its moral force. Romulo finished by congratulating the Academy as the first US institution of higher learning to stress the spiritual aspect of Asian life, and he hoped the American people would give it their support.

Romulo's Remarks in Private Conversation

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4. [REDACTED] private conversation with Romulo, he said that at the Bandung Conference, and again at the then current special UN session, he was continually asked by various Asian and African diplomats to explain the US attitude toward Bandung, as reflected in the US press. According to Romulo, the representatives of the Bandung countries were astonished by what some of them described as "vicious" reporting of the Conference in US newspapers and magazines. Romulo mentioned as an instance the impression allegedly given US readers that Nehru had played the role of a temperamental ass whereas Nehru is known by all the Bandung delegates, said Romulo, to have actually been the calming and unifying spirit at Bandung. It was evident that Romulo himself was disturbed by US press accounts of the proceedings, although I suspect much less so than the others whose attitudes he reported. [REDACTED] Romulo said of the Bandung Conference that it was a tremendous expression of the unanimity of Asian sentiment and an event during which Asia had at long last "found its voice." 25X1X
5. Romulo referred to the forthcoming Geneva Conference as "very encouraging." Regardless of its accomplishments or failures, he felt that Soviet agreement to meet with the other powers at the summit under UN auspices was a significant event in post-World War II history.

Reaction to Address by Chairman of the American Academy of Asian Studies

6. Mr Louis Gainsborough, founder and present Chairman of the Board of the Academy, delivered an address with the unusual title of "The United States - An Underdeveloped Area." The speech appeared to strike an extremely

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responsive chord in the Asia and African guests most of whom crowded about him when he finished speaking. His theme, briefly, was that Asian and African countries, often so critical of the US, are themselves more at fault than they realize in not doing enough with respect to US "underdevelopment." He said the US was underdeveloped in its understanding of Asian political problems, Asian spiritual life, and investment opportunities in Asia, and was short of individual US experts on Asia. He said that the Asian and African countries needed more and better public relations programs throughout the US and not just in the big cities. He said these countries should translate and make available more of their books to US readers. In short, he felt that if the US public, which ultimately determines the drift of our foreign policy, was uninformed, misinformed, or indifferent to their countries, the responsibility was really that of the Asians. The speech seemed to have been very effective, especially in its emphasis on the concept of mutual exchange of ideas and knowledge, instead of the one-way-streets of USIA and technical assistance. Mr Gainsborough's office was deluged the following day with requests for anywhere from 10 to 50 copies of the speech by the various delegates who attended the dinner.

[On file in the CIA Library is a copy of the speech.] *[unclassified]*

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